

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9327

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652/ N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: UKRAINIAN SECOND SECRETARY DEMOTED

1. UKRAINIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE RELEASED SECOND SECRETARY I.K. LUTAK AT JANUARY 30 PLENUM SUPERVISED BY POLITBURO MEMBER V.V. SHCHERBITSKIY. LUTAK WAS APPOINTED JANUARY 27 FIRST SECRETARY OF CHERKASSKAYA OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEE, AND FORMER INCUMBENT A.N. ANDREYEV WAS PENSIONED FOR POOR HEALTH.

2. COMMENT - WE ARE INCLINED TO VIEW LUTAK'S DEMOTION AS ANOTHER POLITICAL MOVE BY SHCHERBITSKIY ON THE EVE OF THE UKRAINIAN PARTY CONGRESS WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN ON FEBRUARY 10. THERE ARE ALSO NATIONAL IMPLICATIONS SINCE THE UKRAINIAN SECOND SECRETARYSHIP CARRIES WITH IT FULL MEMBERSHIP ON THE CPSU CC. WE ASSUME THAT THE LOCAL PRESS WILL ANNOUNCE THE NAME OF THE NEW

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INCUMBENT AT LEAST BY MID-FEBRUARY.

3. LUTAK HAS APPARENTLY SUFFERED A SEVERE DEMOTION. HE HAS BEEN RETURNED TO CHERKASSY WHERE HE SERVED 1954-61 BUT TO A PARTY POST WHICH DOES NOT CARRY A SEAT ON THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE. LUTAK WILL HTEREFORE PROBABLY LOSE HIS FULL MEMBERSHIP ON THE CPSU CC AT THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS. CHERKASSKAYA OBLAST IS NOT ONE OF THE IMPORTANT PARTY UNITS IN THE UKRAINE, AND LUTAK SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN RUSTICATED.

4. THE OUTGOING SECRETARY IN CHERKASSY, A.N. ANDREYEV, PROBABLY WAS REMOVED FOR POOR HEALTH BUT IS APPARENTLY IN GOOD GRACES. PRAVDA NOTED ON JANUARY 30 THAT ANDREYEV HAD RECEIVED THE ORDER OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION FOR LONG WORK IN PARTY ORGANS. STOESEL

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